

REMARKS

This amendment is filed together with a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE"). Claims 50-69 are pending in the application with the present amendments. In the final Office Action, claims 50-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,199,076 to Logan et al. ("Logan") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,838,996 to DeCarmo ("DeCarmo") and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0042918 to Townsend et al. ("Townsend").

Applicants submit that the references cited in the Office Action fail to teach or suggest the invention as recited in the presently pending claims. In particular, the passages cited by the Examiner of *Logan*, *DeCarmo* and *Townsend* fail to teach or suggest an integrated receiver decoder which includes first and second output terminals in which the first output terminal is connectable to and disconnectable from a bi-directional data communication line in accordance with a first digital interface standard. The second output terminal is connectable to and disconnectable from a one-way data communication line in accordance with a second digital interface standard that is different from the first digital interface standard. Thus, for example, as now recited in claim 67, the first digital interface standard can be IEEE1394 and, as claimed in claim 68, the second digital interface standard can be IEC958. In addition, as claimed in claim 69, in one recited embodiment, the second output terminal is operable to provide the decoded digital audio data to the external device by optical transmission.

In particular, the Examiner cites *DeCarmo* merely as describing hardware and software compression and decompression. Neither *Logan* nor *Townsend* are cited by the Examiner as teaching or suggesting these features of the presently pending claims.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that the presently pending claims are also distinguished from the references cited in the final Office Action for the reasons set forth in the amendment filed August 8, 2005.

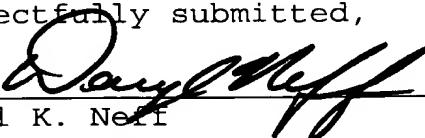
Support for the present amendments is provided, *inter alia*, at page 20, lines 3 through 13; page 23, lines 5 through 7; and page 35, line 4 through page 36, line 15.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that she telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which she might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: March 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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